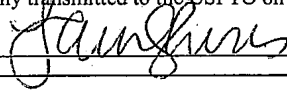


I hereby certify that this correspondence is being electronically transmitted to the USPTO on the date shown below.

Date: April 20, 2007

Signature: 

(Laura Shires)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 10/715,875
Confirmation No.: 3703
Filing Date: November 18, 2003
Inventor(s): Lee R. GUTERMAN et al.
Title: BIFURCATED ANEURYSM BUTTRESS ARRANGEMENT
Examiner: V. Nguyen
Group Art Unit: 3734

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patent
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the restriction requirement set forth in the Office Action mailed February 21, 2007, for which a response was due March 21, 2007. Filed herewith is a Petition and fee for a one-month extension of time, thereby extending the deadline for response to April 21, 2007. Accordingly, this response is timely filed.

Claim 1-33 were presented for examination at filing. A Requirement for Restriction was issued, setting out two groups of claims and nine species of drawings. In response, Applicants hereby elect Group I (drawn to claims 1-13), with traverse.

Applicants expressly reserve their right under 35 U.S.C. § 121 to file one or more divisional applications directed to the non-elected subject matter during the pendency of this application, or an application claiming priority from this application.

Applicants also elect Species I, Figures 1-5. Applicant notes that claims 1, 34-40 are readable on the elected species.

Applicants respectfully request examination of the elected subject matter on the merits.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.